Begging on Delhi roads

1710. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether begging in Delhi, particularly at the road crossing and moving buses continues unchecked, thereby increasing the chances of road accidents in the national capital;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of beggars apprehended during 2005 and so far during 2006 and those sent to beggar homes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Regular anti-begging drives are being carried out from time to time by Delhi Police and the Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT of Delhi. Last such drive was held from 3rd to 10th February, 2006. No accident due to begging at intersections or in moving buses has been reported during the year 2005 and 2006 (up to February).

(c) The information is given below:

Year	Number of beggars apprehended	Number of beggars sent to beggars home
2005	1035	500
2006 (till February	271	88

Smuggling from neighbouring countries

1711. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of smuggling of equipments from the neighbouring countries especially, Nepal is continuing unabated in connivance with the police authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and